The Year 7 Japanese course aims to introduce students to Japanese language, people and culture, giving an insight into what life is like in Japan. Students will begin by learning greetings and introducing themselves, while becoming familiar with related Japanese customs and practices. Students will then learn the Hiragana alphabet with the aim of being able to read and write language learned in Japanese script. The second term of the course is titled “Let’s Go Shopping” and includes vocabulary, sentence patterns and cultural insights into shopping in Japan. It requires the reading and writing of Hiragana and with our Japanese sister school visiting annually students have the opportunity to practice their Japanese in authentic situations.

The emphasis in Japanese at this level is on embracing and appreciating another language and culture. All areas of learning - oral, aural and written skills are covered using a range of learning styles involving the use of their slate to access free apps and the latest educational online tools. Students will grasp the basic skills required to communicate in Japanese and a broad knowledge of differences in culture and customs.

The course can be moderated or accelerated to cater for individual students, with assessment depending on the level of the learner. As some of our students have had some background at Junior School level, previous language learnt is kept active, and previous skills and knowledge are taken into account.

The Year 8 Japanese course aims to combine language, writing, culture and an understanding of life as a teenager in Japan. Students will begin by learning basic greetings and how to speak about themselves while becoming familiar with related Japanese customs for life in Japan today. We use the Obento textbooks that is linked into the online program called Language Perfect, where students can practice their language as well as compete with students in our class, the school and around the world in an engaging and interactive zones. Using the slate, students learn to type in Japanese, use educational online spaces and access free apps to gain the benefits of social learning. Both the Hiragana and Katakana alphabets are introduced with the aim of students becoming proficient in reading and writing by the end of the course. Kanji characters are also learnt throughout each topic building student knowledge and understanding of Japanese culture and tradition.

Success, wisdom, balance
Throughout the year students learn about Japanese culture first hand through authentic activities such as cooking traditional Japanese food, watching anime movies, cultural days, festivals and sister school visit from Japan.

The course can be moderated or accelerated to cater for individual students, with assessment depending on the level of the learner. Assessment is planned to suit a variety of learning styles and involves listening, oral and writing tasks and tests, presentations, projects, bookwork and homework.

**Year 9 JAPANESE - Elective Subject - Full Year**

The Year 9 Japanese course aims to combine language, writing and cultural knowledge through studying the topics of life at school in Japan, Japanese housing design, weather and seasons, and describing people and their abilities. We use the Obento Supreme textbook which is linked into the online program called Language Perfect, where students can practice their language as well as compete with students in our class, the school and around the world in an engaging and interactive zones. This allows student to use their slates to personalize their learning to either extend or revise work when needed.

Language learning at St John’s Grammar provides an accelerated program from Year 9 to Stage 1. The course has therefore been altered to increase the grammar functions and Kanji taught at Year 9 to enable students to undertake Stage 1 Japanese the following year (as a Year 10 student).

From Year 9 students have the opportunity to be part of the biannual school trip to Japan (even years) so the emphasis in Japanese at Year 9 is on communication skills and therefore students will write and perform a number of role-plays, using technology to recording and create ICT tasks. The presentations will be used to help students develop this confidence and build their cultural understanding. Throughout the year students learn about Japanese culture first hand through authentic activities such as cooking traditional Japanese food, cultural days, sister school visit from Japan, popular anime movies and an excursion to the Himeji Japanese gardens and Japanese restaurant.

Assessment is planned to cater for a variety of learning styles and involves listening, oral and writing tasks and tests, presentations, research, and homework. There is an emphasis on assessment that is authentic such as role-plays, letter writing, translations and listening skills.
Year 10 – Stage 1 JAPANESE - Elective Subject - Full Year (20 Credits)

Year 10 SACE Stage 1 Japanese course aims to extend written and spoken communication skills and allow students to take their learning to the next level. Sound knowledge of Hiragana and Katakana and Kanji studied at Year 9 are assumed. Students will use a text book called Kokoseikatsu supplemented with ‘flipped classroom’ videos and posted work on the school’s Japanese 365 page. There will be a focus on social learning with online educational tools used to support student’s personalized learning needs.

There will be a focus on social learning with online educational tools used to support student’s personalised work.

In this course, students will learn language to discuss ordering and buying food in restaurants and supermarkets, designing a travel itinerary, lifestyle while on exchange in Japan and writing in conversational style, as well as research certain aspects of traditional and modern Japan in an Investigative Tasks. This can then be used authentically as students in Year 9, 10 and 11 have the opportunity to be part of the biannual trip to Japan in the even school years allowing them to experience another culture first hand. As in previous years, oral, listening and writing skills are emphasized. Now authentic audiences are sourced with new technology allowing us to Skype our sister school students Japan while in class.

Assessment is planned to cater for a variety of learning styles and involves listening, oral and writing tasks and tests. Tasks include oral interviews and presentations, short essays, letters and stories. More complex written and oral tasks are designed to prepare students for SACE Stage 2 Japanese. Students start to develop a more independent approach to language acquisition, and are encouraged to build a personally relevant store of vocabulary to suit differing situations.

Stage 2 JAPANESE - Full Year (20 Credits)

Successful completion of Stage 1 Japanese is a prerequisite for this subject.

The Stage 2 course is a continuation of the Stage 1 course and shares the same broad goals, emphases and themes. There are three prescribed themes:

- The Individual
- Japanese-speaking Communities
- The Changing World.

The theme ‘The Individual’ enables students to explore aspects of their personal world, for example, sense of self, aspirations, personal values, opinions, ideas, and relationships with others. This theme also enables students to study topics from the perspectives of other people.

Success, wisdom, balance
The theme ‘The Japanese-speaking Communities’ explores topics from the perspectives of diverse individuals and groups within those communities or the communities as a whole, and encourages students to reflect on their own attitudes, beliefs, and values and develop an understanding of how culture and identity are expressed through language.
The theme ‘The Changing World’ enables students to explore change as it affects the world of work and technology.
Assessment at Stage 2 is in accordance with SACE guidelines and comprises:

Assessment Type 1: Folio (50%)
There are four assessments for the folio:
- Interaction
- 2 x Text Production
- Text Analysis.
Students should undertake all four assessments for the folio at least once.

Assessment Type 2: In-depth Study (20%)
There are three assessments for the in-depth study:
- one oral presentation in [Language] (3 to 5 minutes)
- one written response to the topic in [Language] (600 characters/500 words)
- one reflective response in English (600 words or 5 to 7 minutes).
Students should undertake all three assessments for the in-depth study.

Assessment Type 3: Examination (30%)
The examination consists of two assessments:
- an oral examination
- a written examination.

**Yasufuruichi High School Sister School Program**

Our sister school relationship with Yasufuruichi High School in Hiroshima allows our students to immerse themselves in Japanese culture, make friendships, practise speaking Japanese and truly understand another culture. Students have the opportunity to annually host students from Yasufuruichi for 2 weeks and bi-annually (in even school years) be part of our school’s trip to Japan. These opportunities support not only their language learning but also their journey towards becoming global citizens.